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DA 22-708

Released: July 1, 2022

WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU REMINDS PARTIES THAT THEY ARE REQUIRED TO DESTROY OR RETURN CONFIDENTIAL AND HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

WC Docket No. 18-141

By this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) reminds parties that they are required, pursuant to the protective order in WC Docket No. 18-141 (*Protective Order*), to destroy or return confidential and highly confidential documents in their possession. Pursuant to our final order in this docket, this docket was closed on April 5, 2021 when no petition for certiorari was filed in *Comptel* by April 2, 2021.

The *Protective Order* required persons who have obtained access to confidential information to destroy all copies of such confidential information within two weeks after the conclusion of the proceeding.⁴ Consistent with the *Protective Order*, no material whatsoever containing or derived from Confidential and Highly Confidential Information may be retained by any person having access thereto, except Outside Counsel and Outside Consultants may retain, under the continuing strictures of this Data Collection Protective Order, two copies of pleadings (one of which may be in electronic format) prepared in whole or in part by that party that contain Confidential or Highly Confidential Information, and one copy of orders issued by the Commission or Bureau that contain Confidential or Highly Confidential Information.⁵ All Reviewing Parties are required by the Protective Agreement to certify compliance with these terms.⁶ Such certification shall be made pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746 and is subject to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.⁷

For further information, please contact Michele Levy Berlove, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau at (202) 418-1477 or by e-mail at Michele.Berlove@fcc.gov.

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¹ Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160(c) to Accelerate Investment in Broadband and Next-Generation Networks, WC Docket No. 18-141, Data Collection Protective Order, 34 FCC Rcd 2322, 2231, para. 21 (WCB 2019) (Protective Order).

² Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160(c) to Accelerate Investment in Broadband and Next-Generation Networks, WC Docket No. 18-141, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 34 FCC Rcd 6503, 6533, para. 85 (2019).

³ See COMPTEL v. Fed. Commc'ns Comm'n, 978 F.3d 1325 (D.C. Cir. 2020) (Comptel).

⁴ Protective Order, 34 FCC Rcd at 2331, para. 21.

⁵ *Id*.

⁶ Reviewing Parties shall file such certification with the Commission in WC Docket Nos. 18-141.

⁷ *Id*.